

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY DKT NO. P-120561.1(UTI)

BUHIMSCHI, et al

GROUP ART UNIT:-1653

09/765,476 ~ SERIAL NO.

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

FILED:

January 18, 2001

EXAMINER: Sheridan Snedden

TITLE: FREE RADICAL SCAVENGERS OR PROMOTERS THEREOF AS THERAPEUTIC ADJUVANTS IN PRETERM PARTURITION

Box Response Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED

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## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This amendment is filed in response to the Office action dated December 18, 2002. A request for a three month extension of time to and including June 18, 2003, is filed herewith along with a check for the appropriate fee.

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended). An improved therapy to prevent inhibit the occurrence of premature labor or improve the outcome of premature labor in a pregnant animal, said therapy comprising:

administering to said pregnant animal a free radical scavenger, or a precursor thereto, or an agent inducing production of endogenous free radical scavenger, in an effective amount to said pregnant animal effective to inhibit said occurrence or improve said outcome.